

**CITY/COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES
MEETING OF APRIL 8, 2004**

At 5:05 p.m. Chairman Lee Panza called the meeting to order in the Fourth Floor Dining Room at the San Mateo Transit District Office.

Members Attending: Deborah Gordon, Marc Hershman, Vice-Chair Sue Lempert, Irene O'Connell, Chairman Lee Panza, Joe Silva.

Staff/ Guests Attending: Julie Lancelle (C/CAG Alternate Member – Pacifica), Richard Napier (C/CAG Executive Director), Rosalie O'Mahony (C/CAG Member – Burlingame), Brian Moura (San Carlos), Walter Martone (C/CAG Staff).

1. Public comment on items not on the agenda.

None

2. Minutes of the Meeting of March 11, 2004.

Motion to approve the minutes. Silva/Hershman, unanimous.

3. Update from C/CAG's Lobbyist in Sacramento (via conference call).

- The Governor has publicly stated his support for a part-time California Legislature.
- The current focus of the Legislature and the Governor is the reform of the Workers Compensation Insurance system. The deadline established by the Governor for resolving this issue is April 15th. This is the same deadline to place an initiative on the November ballot.
- The State performance review that has been undertaken by the Governor's staff is likely to recommend some reorganization of the State Government, and is also likely to identify issues with the Regional Water Quality Control Boards.
- Dianne McKenna unfortunately was not reappointed to the California Transportation Commission (CTC). This will be a big loss for the Bay Area. There have been some discussions about a possible overhaul of the CTC and also Caltrans.
- The Governor appears to be softening his stand against new tax or fee increases. The Administration is closely following what the polls say about this.
- There is a proposal for a 5 cent per gallon tax on wholesale gasoline. It is being referred to as a "hidden tax" because it would be paid before the retail price is set.
- The LOCAL Initiative (sponsored by the League and CSAC) is on track to get all of the required signatures by next week in order to qualify for the November election. The California Teachers Association Initiative for a split property tax

role is running into some potential Constitutional issues (conflicts with Proposition 13). The Hertzberg Initiative to restructure local government finance does not appear to have enough time to collect sufficient signatures to qualify for the November ballot.

- Senator Torlakson has introduced SCA 21 and SCA 22. These two Constitutional amendments contain all of the elements of the LOCAL and Hertzberg Initiatives and would enable both to appear on the November ballot without a signature gathering process. Senator Torlakson has indicated that he hopes to craft a compromise between these two Initiative ideas.
- The Senate and the Assembly are focused on moving only those bills that must meet a deadline to pass out of its house of origin. This means that these two bodies are not currently considering bills that originated in the other's house.
- Assemblyman Harmon is still shopping for Republican support in order to move ACA 10 forward. The League of Cities has been surprisingly soft on its support of this bill.

4. Recommendation for a position on AB 392.

This bill would make permanent community transportation planning grants with a focus on localities that fall under the Environmental Justice category. Currently these grants are discretionary on the part of the Caltrans Director. They have been suspended for the current fiscal year. It was noted that the 2020 Peninsula Gateway Corridor Study that C/CAG is co-funding with the Transportation Authority and the Valley Transportation Authority, would have been a prime candidate for one of these grants.

***Motion to recommend that C/CAG take a “support” position on AB 392.
O’Connell/Gordon, unanimous.***

4.a. Update on AB 269.

Assemblyman Mullin has introduced AB 269 at the request of the County. This bill will allow jurisdictions in San Mateo County to contribute redevelopment funds to other jurisdictions in the County to advance the building of affordable housing along the Caltrain rail corridor. County staff is still negotiating with a number of housing advocates in order to address some of the issues that were of concern to the C/CAG Legislative Committee. These concerns include giving some form of credits to the contributing jurisdiction and allowing the funds to be used for projects that are not on Caltrain property. So far the housing advocates have been unwilling to accept these ideas.

4.b. AB 2908 and AB 2741.

These bills attempt to alter the composition of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) by increasing the number of voting Board representatives for Alameda and Santa Clara Counties from 2 to 3 members. The Mayors of Oakland and San Jose would appoint the additional representatives respectively. Committee Member Sue Lempert reported that the addition of these members is the result of a compromise

worked out between MTC staff and the two Counties. The MTC Policy Committees and the full Board was not involved in developing this compromise. This change in the membership of the MTC Board would be bad for C/CAG because:

- Members appointed by specific mayors will be representing only those interests and would not function in the spirit of a regional partnership.
- Santa Clara County should not be allowed to dominate the regional partnership just because it has more population than any other county.
- Santa Clara County has created problems for Caltrain by not paying its fair share of the costs for the train system. Increasing their membership will exasperate this problem.
- The regional partnership is currently working well and should not be tampered with.

Motion to recommend that C/CAG take an “oppose” position on AB 2908 and AB 2741. Gordon/Hershman, unanimous.

It was also recommended that future agendas for the Legislative Committee include an item titled “ Potential new bills.”

5. Establish date and time for next meeting (May 13, 2004).

The next meeting was set for May 13, 2004 at 5:00 p.m. at the Fourth Floor Dining Room at the San Mateo County Transit District Office.

6. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.